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To: Examiner Cristina Owen Sherr  
Group Art Unit 3621  
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From: Jonathan R. Bowser *JRB*

Date: November 13, 2006

Re: Application Serial No. **09/842,181 MOCHIZUKI**

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**RESPONSE UNDER 37.CFR1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3621**

1. Request For Reconsideration After Final (7 pages)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 7249  
Yoshiyuki MOCHIZUKI : Docket No. 2001-0501A  
Serial No. 09/842,181 : Group Art Unit 3621  
Filed April 26, 2001 : Examiner Cristina O. Sherr  
INTERACTIVE NAVIGATION SYSTEM : Mail Stop AF

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents  
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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated August 11, 2006, the Applicant respectfully requests reexamination and reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

In item 4 on page 2 of the Office Action, claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schreder (U.S. 5,504,482) in view of Naito et al. (U.S. 6,628,417, hereinafter "Naito"). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The present invention provides an interactive navigation system that includes a server and a mobile apparatus, which a user operates to perform a route search. The user of the mobile apparatus inputs user input information indicating at least a destination. A first transmitter unit of the mobile apparatus transmits the user input information to the

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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2621

server, whereupon the server is operable to determine an optimum route for the user of the mobile apparatus based on the user input information. The mobile apparatus then receives map data for navigation based on the optimum route found by the server. The mobile apparatus can then store the map data into a storage medium of a storage unit. Furthermore, as disclosed in paragraph [0161] on page 54 of the substitute specification (corresponding to paragraph [0121] on page 54 of the original specification), a notification unit of the mobile apparatus notifies the user of a date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium.

By being notified of the date on which the map data was stored in the recording medium of the storage unit of the user's mobile apparatus, the user can either reuse the stored map data or request new map data of an optimum route if, for example, road conditions have changed due to traffic or inclement weather or the user decides that the stored map data is not recent enough. Each time the user of the mobile apparatus downloads map data from the server, the user must pay the charged amount for the downloaded data.

Therefore, if the map data that the user desires is already stored in the storage unit, the user does not have to download new map data and thereby avoids having to pay for new map data. However, since road conditions frequently change due to traffic or weather conditions, the stored map data may no longer indicate the optimum route, or the stored data may be out of date due to changed route conditions. Accordingly, since the notification unit notifies the user of the date on which the map data was stored into the recording medium of the storage unit when the route guidance unit of the mobile apparatus determines that route guidance can be performed, it is solely the user's decision whether to update the map data that is stored in the storage unit. That is, in contrast to the conventional navigation systems and methods, new map data is not automatically downloaded to the mobile apparatus.

Typically, a user desires to view the most recent version of the map data, but the user will also want to minimize the amount of charge for the map data download. Therefore, based on the storage date of the map data that is presented to the user by the notification unit, the user can determine whether to download map data from the server and thereby determine when to incur new costs for the new map data.

Accordingly, the interactive navigation system of the present invention allows a user to determine whether he or she wants to download map data of an optimum route from the server based on the date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium. By allowing the user to decide whether he or she wants to download new map data from the server or reuse map data that is already stored in the storage unit of the mobile apparatus, the user can thereby control the costs that are associated with using the interactive navigation system. Further, by allowing the user to selectively download map data of an optimum route as he or she desires, the interactive navigation system of the present invention allows the provider of the map data, i.e., the server, to efficiently use communication bandwidths.

Claim 17 recites the above-described features of the present invention. In particular, claim 17 recites an interactive navigation system comprising a mobile apparatus and a server. The mobile apparatus of claim 17 is recited as comprising a notification unit which is operable to notify a user of a date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium, where the notification unit is operable to notify the user of the date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium when the route guidance unit determines that the route guidance can be performed.

The mobile apparatus is also recited in claim 17 also comprising a first transmitter which is operable to transmit the user input information to the server when at least one of the route guidance unit determines that the route guidance cannot be performed and the user provides an instruction to update the map data stored in the storage medium of the storage unit in response to the notification unit notifying the user of the date on which the map data stored into the storage medium.

As acknowledged by the Examiner, Schreder does not disclose or suggest notifying a user of a mobile apparatus of the date on which map data was stored. In an attempt to teach this feature, the Examiner applied Naito.

Naito discloses a data communication apparatus in which a center server 102 stores and manages display image data, and transfers requested image display data to a client computer 101 upon receiving a request for such data from the client computer 101. Upon receiving requested image data, the user of the client computer 101 is able to preview the image data to determine whether the user wants to print the image data. In

particular, Naito discloses that the center server 102 holds image data to be transferred to the client computer 101 on the basis of a request for the image data from the client computer 101, and retrieves an image from an image server 111 based on a request for the image from the center server 102. If the user of the client computer wishes to print the received image data, the user sends a print request to the center server 102 along with requested print size information, and the center server 102 sends a print instruction to a print server 121 to print the requested image data (see Column 4, lines 43-63).

Naito discloses that the center server 102 includes a center transmission box 418, the image server 111 includes a local transmission box 613, and the print server 112 includes a local transmission box 713 (see Column 27, lines 32-36 and 46-51, and Figure 30, where transmission box 3001 corresponds to the transmission boxes 418, 613 and 713 of the center server 102, image server 111 and print server 112). In addition, Naito discloses that the center server 102, image server 111 and print server 112 also include a transmission control information table 3003, which is a file that stores information such as the file name of a data file to be transmitted (see Column 27, lines 57-61 and Figure 30).

Furthermore, Naito discloses that the center server 102 includes a center reception box 419, the image server 111 includes a local reception box 614, and the print server 121 includes a local reception box 714 (see Column 28, lines 7-11 and 20-24, and Figure 31, where reception box 3101 corresponds to the reception boxes 419, 614 and 714 of the center server 102, image server 111 and print server 112). Naito also discloses that the center server 102, image server 111 and print server 112 also include a reception control information table 3104, which is a file that stores information such as the file name of a received transfer data file (see Column 28, lines 39-42 and Figure 31).

Naito further discloses that the transmission control information table 3003 and the reception control information table 3104 each include a box storage date field 3204, which stores date and time data indicating when requested data was stored in the transmission box 3001 or reception box 3101, and a transfer completion date field 3205, which stores date and time data indicating the time and date when transmission or reception of requested data was completed (see Column 29, lines 16-23).

Accordingly, Naito discloses that box storage date field 3204 stores a date and time when image data requested from the center server 102 from the image server 111 is stored in the reception box 3101 of the center server 102, and when the requested image data is stored in the transmission box 3001 of the image server 111. Similarly, the box storage date field 3204 stores a date and time when image data requested from the center server 102 is stored in the transmission box 3001 of the center server 102 to be transmitted to the print server 121, and when the image data to be printed is received in the reception box 3101 of the print server 121.

The transfer completion date field 3105 of Naito stores a date and time when requested data is completely received or stored in the appropriate transmission box 3001 or reception box 3101. However, the date and time data stored in the transfer completion date field 3105 is merely for sorting data which is not yet sent or data which is not yet received, and for deleting old data (see Column 39, lines 35-43 and 53-63, Column 40, lines 54-65, and Figure 35).

Accordingly, the date and time date of Naito are merely for sorting data which is not sent or received yet, and for deleting data which has already been transferred or received (i.e., old data). However, the date and time data of Naito is not notified to the user, and therefore, the date and time data of Naito makes it impossible to prompt the user to determine whether to update the map data currently stored.

Furthermore, as described above, the Examiner acknowledged that Schreder clearly does not disclose or suggest a notification unit in a mobile apparatus that notifies the user of the date on which the map data was stored into a storage medium of the mobile apparatus.

Therefore, Schreder and Naito, either individually or in combination, clearly do not disclose or suggest a mobile apparatus comprising:

- (1) a notification unit which is operable to notify a user of a date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium, where the notification unit is operable to notify the user of the date on which the map data was stored into the storage medium when the route guidance unit determines that the route guidance can be performed, and

(2) a first transmitter which is operable to transmit the user input information to the server when at least one of the route guidance unit determines that the route guidance unit determines that the route guidance cannot be performed and the user provides an instruction to update the map data stored in the storage medium of the storage unit in response to the notification unit notifying the user of the date on which the map data stored into the storage medium, as recited in claim 17.

Accordingly, no obvious combination of Schreder and Naito would result in the invention claim 17 since Schreder and Naito, either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 17.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 17 is clearly patentable over Schreder and Naito since Schreder and Naito, either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 17.

In item 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 18-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schreder in view of Naito and further in view of Hoshino et al. (U.S. 6,088,580, hereinafter "Hoshino").

As demonstrated above, Schreder and Naito each fail to disclose or suggest features (1) and (2) of claim 17.

Similar to Schreder and Naito, Hoshino also fails to disclose or suggest features (1) and (2) of claim 17.

Consequently, Hoshino does not cure the deficiencies of Schreder and Naito for failing to disclose or suggest each and every limitation of claim 17.

Accordingly, no obvious combination of Schreder, Naito and Hoshino would result in the invention of claim 17 since Schreder, Naito and Hoshino, either individually or in combination, clearly fail to disclose or suggest each and every limitation recited in claim 17.

Furthermore, it is submitted that the distinctions discussed above are such that a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not have been motivated to modify Schreder, Naito and Hoshino in such a manner as to result in, or otherwise render obvious, the present invention as recited in claim 17.

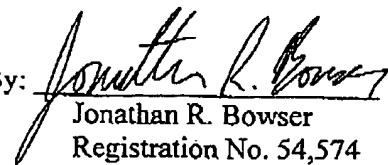
Therefore, it is submitted that the claim 17, as well as claims 18-23 which depend therefrom, are clearly allowable over the prior art as applied by the Examiner.

If, after reviewing this Request, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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